Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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PR 220921Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2973

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

SECRET ABIDJAN 3318

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL), PFOR, XA

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS

REF: A) STATE 088432, B) ACCRA 2513, C) STATE 089392

- 1. EMBASSY IS IN PROCESS OF ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS AS RREQUESTED REFTEL A. WE EXPECT PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET TO BE AVAILABLE, BUT NOT SURE WHETHER FOREIGN MINISTER USHER WILL BE BACK; IF NOT, WILL ARRANGE WITH OTHER KEY OFFICIALS. ALSO WORKING ON AFDB. WHAT ABOUT MINISTERS OF PLAN, ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE? WOULD ALSO PLAN COUNTRY TEAM MEETING TO HEAR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS.
- 2. WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SOCIAL SCHEDULE (KEY UNCERTAINTY IS TYPE AND TIMING ANY FUNCTION BY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS):
 MONDAY, MAY 12

A. ARRIVE ABIDJAN 1210 ON WT 943. LUNCH WITH AMBASSADOR AND MRS. SMITH AT RESIDENCE.

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B. RECEPTION AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE 1830 - 2030 TO MEET

MISSION STAFF.

TUESDAY, MAY 13

C. LUNCH HOSTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER USHER.

D. DINNER FOR UP TO 18 AT RESIDENCE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO MEET KEY IVORIAN OFFICIALS.

- 3. RGARDING PUBLICITY (REFTEL A, PARA 4), IT IS STANDARD PROCEDURE IN IVORY COAST FOR VISITING DIGNITARIES TO ACCORD PRESS AND TV JOURNALISTS AN INTERVIEW UPON ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT AND FREQUENTLY UPON DEPARTURE; INTERVIEWS TAKE PLACE IN AIRPORT VIP LOUNGE. BRIEF OPENING STATEMENT ADVISABLE, FOLLOWED BY BLAND, POLITE QUESTIONS, BOTH FROM GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIA AND WIRE SERVICES. WE CAN HELP SUGGEST OPENING STATEMENT AND LIKELY QUESTIONS IF YOU WISH. ALSO, THE PRESS IS NORMALLY INVITED TO PHOTOGRAPH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN OFFICIALS AND MAY POSE QUESTIONS FOLLOWING MEETINGS CONCERNING THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED. WE EXPECT IVORIAN PRESS WILL ACT TRUE TO FORM. WE THEREFORE REQUEST GUIDANCE WHETHER OR NOT THIS FORMAT MEETS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS' APPROVAL.
- 4. AMBASSADOR AND MRS. SMITH WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS AND MR. SIMPSON WOULD STAY AT RESIDENCE. SMITH

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